

Medi-Cal Program Guide Special Notice 07-05

September 5, 2007

Subject	Implementation of the Healthy Families (HF) to Medi-Cal Presumptive Eligibility (PE) Program
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Effective Date	Upon receipt
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Reference	ACWDL 07-15
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Purpose	The purpose of this letter is to inform staff that the HF to Medi-Cal PE program replaces the existing HF to Medi-Cal Bridging program.
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Background	To ensure uninterrupted health coverage of children who lose HF eligibility at Annual Eligibility Review (AER), the HF to Medi-Cal Bridging program was implemented in July 2002 as part of the HF Parental Expansion waiver.
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Under the HF to Medi-Cal Bridging program, children who lose HF eligibility and appear eligible to zero share of cost (SOC) Medi-Cal during the HF AER process continue to receive two months of HF eligibility under aid code (AC) 7Y. The HF AER applications, along with supporting documents, are immediately forwarded to the County for Medi-Cal eligibility determination. Eligibility to 7Y AC ends automatically at the end of the second month.

The waiver that established the HF to Medi-Cal Bridging program expired on January 24, 2007 and will not be renewed. The HF to Medi-Cal PE program is established to replace the existing HF to Medi-Cal Bridging program effective upon receipt of this notice.

Until further notice, the following procedures shall be used to process HF to Medi-Cal PE referrals.

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HF to Medi-Cal PE Overview

As previously mentioned, the HF to Medi-Cal PE program shall replace the existing HF to Medi-Cal Bridging program. Under the HF to Medi-Cal PE program, when consent is given, children who lose HF eligibility and appear eligible to zero SOC Medi-Cal will have their health coverage extended under 5E AC until a worker completes a Medi-Cal eligibility determination. The HF application information is then forwarded to the County for a Medi-Cal evaluation.

At present, the 5E AC is not functional in MEDS. In the interim, children eligible to the HF to Medi-Cal PE program will be placed temporarily in 8E AC until a final Medi-Cal eligibility determination is made. The 8E AC is also currently used for children eligible to Accelerated Enrollment.

Cases in their second month of coverage under the HF to Medi-Cal Bridging program will be transferred to the new HF to Medi-Cal PE program and AC when the HF to Medi-Cal PE program takes effect.

Referral Process

For the HF to Medi-Cal PE program, the referral process and information sent to the County from HF will remain as it was for the HF to Medi-Cal Bridging program. Children who are potentially eligible for Medi-Cal will be placed in the designated HF to Medi-Cal PE AC. Until that new code is activated, these children will be placed in the 8E AC.

The transmittals for the HF to Medi-Cal PE cases will include a "PE start date," which will be the first of the month following the HF disenrollment. The date will be listed in the column titled "PE Start Date." The current transmittal form contains a column for identifying AE start date. When the worker receives the transmittal form, he/she will notice that the "AE" is crossed out and "PE" is written for HF to MC PE cases.

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Required Action

Until further notice, workers shall process HF to Medi-Cal PE referrals as follows:

- The HF AER application will continue to serve as a Medi-Cal application.
 - The date of application will be the PE start date.
 - Eligibility under 8E AC will continue until the worker completes a Medi-Cal determination.
 - If the HF to Medi-Cal PE approved child is granted Medi-Cal, approve case as usual. The granting action will trigger MEDS to automatically terminate the 8E AC, similar to that of an AE record.
 - If the HF to Medi-Cal PE approved child is denied Medi-Cal, utilize the existing AE processes to terminate the 8E AC on Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS) and to send notices of action.
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Automation Impact

Until DHCS implements the new 5E AC, the HF to Medi-Cal PE program will use the 8E AC, currently used for AE. These cases will show up on the Exception Eligibles report along with the other AE cases. Similar to the AE process, worker actions are required to discontinue the HF to Medi-Cal PE record upon completion of a final Medi-Cal determination. Those cases currently eligible to 7Y will remain in 7Y until the end of the 2 month eligibility period at which time they will automatically convert to 8E if a final Medi-Cal determination is not completed.

Forms Impact

None

Quality Assurance Impact

Effective with October 2007 review month, Quality Assurance will cite the appropriate error on any case that does not follow the requirements detailed in this special notice.

Manager Approval

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

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